UNCLASSIFIED

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R 030934Z SEP 94 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY QUAINTON

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: PREMATURE RELEASE OF STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON

AMIA BOMBING

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5835

1. I LEARNED YESTERDAY OF THE PREMATURE RELEASE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE AMIA BOMBING. THE RELEASE WAS CLEARLY AN ERROR I AM DISTRESSED THAT THIS HAPPENED, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT CAUSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBARRASSMENT TO THE EMBASSY. I HAVE TAKEN APPROPRIATE

ACTION TO ENSURE SIMILAR UNAUTHORIZED RELEASES DO NOT

HAPPEN AGAIN.

2. THE OFFICER WHO RELEASED THE REPORT MISTAKENLY THOUGHT THE REPORT HAD ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE EMBASSY. THE OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD SIMPLY BEEN TRYING TO BE HELPFUL BY GIVING AN UNCLASSIFIED REPORT TO A REPORTER DOING A BROADER REPORT ON TERRORISM. THERE WAS NO

SUGGESTION THAT THE REPORT WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE ARGENTINE PRESS. I AM TOLD THE REPORT ONLY CONTAINED INFORMATION ALREADY KNOWN TO THE ARGENTINE POLICE, MOST OF

WHICH WAS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE. BY NOW YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED FROM US A COPY OF THE UNCLASSIFIED REPORT. THE CLASSIFIED VERSION IS IN THE POUCH.

3. AGAIN, PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGY FOR THIS UNFORTUNATE AFFAIR.
TALBOTT

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